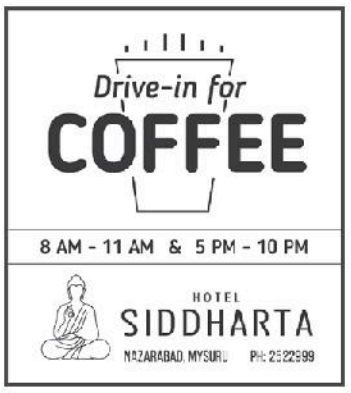

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MYSURU Friday 20th February 2026
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Legacy waste NEAR CLEAR

Bio-mining drive at Sewage Farm in Vidyaranyapuram set for June completion; most of 6-lakh tonnes waste cleared

Works underway to clear legacy waste dumped beside Sewage Water Treatment Plant (STP) at Sewage Farm, Vidyaranyapuram in city this morning.

Mysuru, Feb. 20 (GA&BS)- Works to clear legacy waste at Sewage Farm (Solid Waste Management Unit or Excel Plant) in Vidyaranyapuram are nearing completion, with most of the six lakh tonnes of accumulated municipal solid waste already removed.

The untreated waste, dumped at the site for nearly three decades, had grown into a hill-like mound and become a major political issue.

Following mounting pressure, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) engaged Surat-based D.H. Patel Company in March 2024 to remove the waste through bio-remediation (bio-mining), initially setting a deadline of January this year.

(See LEGACY WASTE on page 6)

Operation Flex!

In a midnight drive, City Corporation removes illegal hoardings, flex boards and banners

Mysuru, Feb. 20 (MK & VNS)- As part of efforts to restore Mysuru's heritage character and strengthen its bid for the 'Cleanest City' tag in Swachh Survekshan 2025-2026, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) launched a midnight drive yesterday to remove illegal flex boards and banners put up across the city.

Deputy Commissioner G. Lakshmikanth Reddy had earlier directed officials to clear all unauthorised flexes, banners and hoardings.

Acting on the orders, MCC teams removed banners from several locations, including the Outer Ring Road at Shaktinagar, Devegowda Circle at Yaraganahalli on Bannur Road and areas near Kukkarahalli Lake, among others.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning, the Deputy Commissioner said the MCC Commissioner had been instructed to ensure the removal of all illegal banners and flexes across the city.

Permission must

In his order, the DC made it mandatory for organisations, institutions and members of the public to obtain prior permission from the respective local body before erecting any banner or flex.

(See FLEX on page 7)

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Friday 20th February 2026

Intl. Workshop at CFTRI

'Sensory Strategies for Sodium Reduction in Indian Traditional Foods'

Mysuru, Feb. 20- CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI), Mysuru, in association with the Association of Food Scientists & Technologists (India) – AFST(I) and the Food Future Foundation, is organising an International Workshop on "Sensory Strategies for Sodium Reduction in Indian Traditional Foods" tomorrow (Feb. 21) from 9 am to 3 pm at its IFTTC Auditorium.

Dr. Sridevi Annapurna Singh, former Director, CFTRI will be the chief guest. Dr. Parmjit S. Panesar, President, AFST(I); Dr. Pawan Agarwal, Convenor, Forum for Sensory Excellence in Food and Sanjay Dave, former Chairperson, CODEX & former Advisor, FSSAI, will be the guests of honour. Dr. Giridhar Parvatam, Director, CFTRI, will preside. Dr. Miro Smriga, Executive Officer, Ajinomoto Co. Inc., will be the guest of eminence.

The workshop will bring together leading scientists, public health experts, regulators, industry representatives and culinary professionals to deliberate on evidence-based sodium reduction strategies, with emphasis on sensory science, nutrition, food safety and regulatory perspectives. It includes keynote addresses by national and international experts, panel discussions and technical sessions on the role of flavour enhancement strategies.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

HARNESSING THE RADIANCE OF THE SUN: ***The Uttarayana punyakala has just begun. This marks both the birthday and the northward journey of surya, the Sun God as the seasons change from the dark, cold winter to the harvest season and spring and summer. Known variously as Aditya, Ravi, Diwakar and Surya, sun is believed to travel on his chariot drawn by seven horses and is considered the visible manifestation of Brahman itself.***

A popular mantra in praise of Surya, the son of Sage Kashyapa and Aditi, describes his red orange hue much alike the hibiscus flower, his radiance, his ability to dispel darkness and wash away the sins of those who sincerely worship him besides imbuing them with strength and energy.

Incidentally when Sanjana, daughter of the celestial architect Viswakarma and the wife of Surya found his light and brilliance too intense she confided in her father who used his celestial lathe to scrape off some of Surya's body to mute the brilliance and repurposed the scrapings to fashion an array of weapons: the Sudarshan chakra (Vishnu's weapon) Shiva's trident, the vel or spear that Karthikeya wields etc.

Surya is deemed a star in astronomy while according to Vedic astrology he is a very important planet due to his position in the centre of the solar system.

The number seven holds great significance for Surya. The seven horses of his chariot stand for the seven days of the week (Sunday being his day) and also the seven colours of the rainbow.

What's more, the seven different rays that emanate from him gave rise to and shed light on the Moon and planets such as Mercury, Jupiter, Venus, Saturn and Mars.

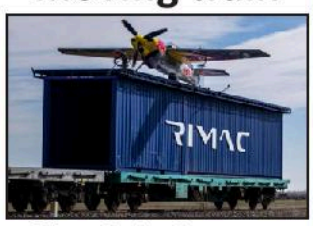
The 12 wheels of his chariot represent the 12 signs of the Zodiac.

That Surya is the giver of energy is clearly mentioned in the episode in the Valmiki Ramayana wherein an exhausted Rama during the battle with Ravana was given the Aditya Hridayam stotra by Sage Agastya. Rama chanted it thrice over and emerged victorious.

The Sun's healing properties can be gauged from a study of chromotherapy. The Surya Namaskar, a yogasana most practitioners will endorse, is considered a great energiser, a beautiful way to supplicate before Surya and express gratitude for all his blessings. — *Sudha Umashanker in Deccan Herald*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Pilot lands plane on moving train



Milan: Dario Costa recently made aviation history after becoming the first pilot ever to land a plane on a moving train before taking off again.

Italian airplane pilot Dario Costa's daring feat of landing his Zivko Edge 540 aircraft on the last cart of a moving train was so impressive as pulling off such a dangerous maneuver required not just perfect reflexes and nerves of steel, but years of planning and training.

Costa and his team started preparing in 2024, creating simulations and conducting controlled tests to replicate the complex landing dynamics. Because rehearsals on moving trains were impossible, advanced simulation technologies and controlled ground-based rehearsals were crucial to the success of the project. But in the end, it was in Dario's hands.

Robots blow everyone away with kung fu

Beijing: A company specialising in humanoid robots staged an impressive kung-fu demonstration that exceeded everyone's expectations. Humanoid robots are still far from capable of performing complex tasks and difficult movements, but one Chinese robotics giant is proving everyone wrong.

We all knew humanoid robots were evolving at a rapid pace, but we certainly didn't expect to see them demonstrating high-difficulty martial arts stunts such as somersaults, stick dancing, running jumps, sword dancing, or expertly wielding nunchucks anytime soon. And yet, here we are!

Wang Xingxing, founder of Unitree Robotics, said that the dozens of robots on stage operated without external positioning assistance, relying entirely on onboard sensors to perceive the environment in real time, autonomously plan paths, dynamically adjust formations, and automatically recover after deviating from their course or being accidentally disturbed.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Early medical intervention can prevent minor digestive issues from progressing into chronic disease.

By Dr. Nischay R - Consultant – Gastroenterology & Hepatology, Manipal Hospitals, Mysuru

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Printing Cluster delegation submits memorandum to DC

Mysuru, Feb. 20 (KS) - A delegation comprising Cluster Director Rashmi Koti, along with General Secretary of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Council Suresh Kumar Jain, recently submitted a memorandum to Mysuru Deputy Commissioner (DC) G. Lakshmikanth Reddy seeking approval of the project and allotment of land to SPV Units of Printers Cluster Common Facility Centre project of the Mysore Print and Paper Cluster Foundation, which has been progressing slowly since 2013.

Government of India assistance of Rs. 10 crore is available for this project once the land is allotted to Cluster SPV Units. KIADB had reserved 7.8 acres land at Koorgalli Industrial Area in 2016 and the State Government has appointed a consultant for implementing the project.

Once developed, the Print and Paper Cluster project is expected to benefit more than 300 printing and allied industries in Mysuru district. At present, a similar Print Park at Harohalli near Bengaluru is operating successfully with funding from the Union and State Governments.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **116.06 feet**	Today's level **2,273.17 feet**	Today's level **2,830.05 feet**
Last year's level **115.40 feet**	Last year's level **2,276.28 feet**	Last year's level **2,837.00 feet**
Yesterday's level **116.38 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,273.34 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,830.03 feet**
Today's Inflow **194 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **221 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **245 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **4,367 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **1,200 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **200 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- *Eating lots of onions can make you fall asleep, it is a sedative.*
- *Cucumber is a fruit and not a vegetable because it has seeds inside.*
- *A money plant also has seeds which grow inside the pods, enlarge, and burst fall on the ground.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

A newsboy was standing on the corner with a stack of papers, yelling, *"Read all about it. Fifty people swindled! Fifty people swindled!"*
Curious, a man walked over, bought a paper and checked. Finding nothing, the man said, *"There's nothing in here about fifty people being swindled."*
The newsboy ignored him and went on, calling out, *"Read all about it. Fifty-one people swindled!!"*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 90.93
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 122.26
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 24.76
1 Euro	= Rs. 106.88

VOICE OF THE READER

An appeal to save Hebbal Lake

630 concerned citizens launch signature campaign

Sir,

Hebbal Lake has long served as a green lung for thousands of residents, offering space for walking, exercise and relaxation. Maintained by Infosys Foundation since 2018, the Lake has been widely appreciated for its upkeep.

However, the Foundation is set to hand over maintenance to Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) from March 2026.

Even as the transition approaches, a major concern continues to plague the Lake — the inflow of sewage and industrial effluents through Storm Water Drains (SWDs).

One drain originates from the industrial area under the jurisdiction of Hootagalli City Municipal Council (CMC), while another flows through Hebbal and Lakshmikanthanagar, falling under the MCC's limits.

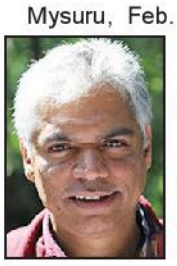
More than 630 concerned citizens have physically signed petitions addressed to the Deputy Commissioner of Mysuru, Hootagalli CMC and MCC, urging immediate steps to prevent sewage and waste from entering the SWDs. In a separate appeal to the same authorities, as well as to Infosys Foundation, residents have requested that the Foundation continue maintaining Hebbal Lake in the larger public and environmental interest.

—Signatories to the petition

Mysuru 12.2.2026

S.L. Bhyrappa Sahitya Pratisthana Prashasti to Prakash Belawadi

Mysuru, Feb. 20- Actor, Director and screen writer Prakash Belawadi has been selected for the prestigious S.L. Bhyrappa Sahitya Pratisthana Prashasti for the year 2026.



Prakash Belawadi

The award will be presented to him by renowned Kannada writer, translator and former Chairman of the Kuvempu Bhasha Bharathi Dr. Pradhan Gurudatta.

S. N. Sethuram, Kannada TV serial director and playwright will be the chief guest and speak on Belwadi's contribution to Indian drama and theatre. S.B. Uday Shankar, Pratisthana President, will be present.

Prakash Belwadi had directed the drama of late Dr. S.L. Bhyrappa's renowned, researched novel *Parva* that gave a profound 8-hour multi-act theatrical experience, which focused on human emotion over mythology.

The award ceremony will be held at Suchitra Cinema and Cultural Academy in Bengaluru tomorrow (Feb. 21). The annual award, which carries Rs. 1 lakh and a citation, is given every year since 2023 to a distinguished writer, translator director or a critic.

S.L. Bhyrappa Sahitya Pratisthana is a Trust, registered in the year 1999, to further the cause of intellectual advancement in the field of education, literature and art, according to press release from Prof. G.L. Shekar, Hon. Secretary of the Pratisthana.

For details contact Mob: 94483-83535.

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Beside Kalyan Jewellers, Bangalore Nilgiri Road, Mysore-570001.
TIME : 10 AM TO 8 PM (MONDAY TO SUNDAY)

Fine arts training valedictory tomorrow

Mysuru, Feb. 20- The valedictory of fine arts training classes orgnaised by the Department of Kannada and Culture under SC/ST scheme for students residing in various SC/ST hostels in city will be held tomorrow at Kiru Rangamandira at 10.30 am.

Social Welfare and District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa will inaugurate. Chamaraja MLA K. Harishgowda will preside.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore,* Kannada and Culture Assistant Director Dr. M.D. Sudarshan said, "Students residing in SC/ST hostels were trained in theatre, folk songs, classical songs among others for six months. The Department had selected Devanand Varaprasad and Narayanaswamy, two established artistes, to train the students at the hostels. Now, students will exhibit their talents at the valedictory."

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Speakers
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Will illuminate how deep science, innovation, and translational research can transform lives and build national capabilities.
Mr. Dilip Y
Distinguished Scientist and Architect of India's Indigenous Flight Control Systems,
Will inspire audiences with India's rise in advanced aviation, autonomous platforms, and next-generation combat technologies.
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10:00 AM
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NEWS BRIEFS

Power disruption

As Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL) has taken up its 4th quarterly maintenance works at T. Narasipur, Muguru, Gargeshwari and Tayuru Power Distribution Centres, there will be no power supply tomorrow (Feb. 21) between 10 am and 5 pm at **T. Narasipur Power Distribution Centre:** T. Narasipur town, Kiragasur, T. Doddapura, Hemmige, Muthalawadi villages & Gram Panchayat (GP) limits. **Mugur Power Distribution Centre:** Mugur, Kothegala, Aalagudu, Vatalu, Mugurmole, Kottavadi, Kottavadimole villages and GP surroundings. **Gargeshwari Power Distribution Centre:** Yadathore, Kurisiddanahundi, Gargeshwari, Haletiruamakodalu, Hosakote, Induvalu, Rayarahundi, Hosakempayyanahundi villages and GP limits. **Tayur Power Distribution Centre:** Tayur (lift irrigation), Eshwaragowdanahalli, Vaddarahundi, Beerihundi, Kottarayanahundi, Gejjaganahalli, Kahalli and Kalkunda, according to a CESC Executive Engineer Nanjangud Division.

Free eye camp

Amrutamshu Trust, in association with Manipal Hospital, Brindavan Hospital, District Blindness Control Society, Mysuru District Mobile Eye Clinic & K.R. Hospital, Mysuru, has organised a free eye screening & surgery camp on Feb. 23 from 10 am to 1 pm at No. 2767, Panchajanya, 5th Main Road, Medarakeri at Chamundipuram. Interested should bring a copy of their Aadhaar Card and BPL card. For details, call Mob: 99452-70646.

Auto drivers meeting

City's Karnataka Autorickshaw Drivers and Owners Welfare Association has convened a meeting of drivers & owners of autorickshaws and other commercial vehicles at Hotel Govardhan on Sri Harsha Road in city at 11 am on Feb. 22. The meeting will discuss the grievances and problems of auto drivers and owners and other issues concerning them. [Mob: 93424-21021]

Pratibha Puraskar

Karnataka Rajya Makkala Sahitya Parishat, Chamaraja Assembly Constituency Unit, Mysuru, has invited poems, stories, limericks and essays from children for presentation of Pratibha Puraskar. The entries (one page in case of stories, one page of poetry, 4 lines of limericks and three pages of essays, either handwritten or DTP) should be sent to the Parishat Office or via WhatsApp 97418-49537 by Mar. 5. The contest is open for students of 5th to 10th standards. The topic for essay is 'Pollution and environment conservation' [Mob: 95138-07425].

Drones keep hawk eye vigil to maintain peace, law & order in city

A drone camera keeping vigil over the clock tower area near Madina Masjid Circle at Udayagiri in NR Constituency. Picture below shows Police personnel monitoring the drone camera.

Mysuru, Feb. 20 (KS)- In a bid to maintain peace and law and order situation in city, Mysuru City Police, with the help of drone cameras are keeping a hawk eye vigil on important places and crowded areas across the city.

Yesterday, vigil was kept by deploying drones at Al-Badar Circle and Nimra and Madina Masjid areas coming under Udayagiri Police and at Kailaspuram and Sunni Chowk in Mandi Police limits.

Drones will be effectively used to gather prior information during various security duties, public meetings, special events and other activities taking place in the city in the coming days with the help of drones. This action has being taken to maintain public safety, prevent anti-social activities and maintain law and order, Police sources said.

Two youths sentenced to life imprisonment for murder

Mysuru, Feb. 20 (PM&KS)- City's Principal District and Sessions Court has sentenced two youths to life imprisonment besides imposing a fine of Rs. 1 lakh each after they were found guilty of murdering a man.

Those sentenced to life are 23-year-old Puneeth and 24-year-old Pavan, residents of Anandur village in Yelwal Police limits.

On July 7, 2017, Puneeth and Pavan, after abusing one Manjunath of the village in front of the shop of one Bettegowda, brutally assaulted Manjunath with machetes. Though Manjunath was admitted to a private hospital in Mysuru, he succumbed to injuries on July 13. A case was registered in this regard and the then investigating officer Abdul Kareem Rawther had submitted a charge sheet to the Court.

Judge Usharani, who took up the case, found the youths guilty of murder and sentenced them to life imprisonment besides imposing the fine. Failing to pay the fine, the convicts will have to undergo an additional one-year simple imprisonment and another one year imprisonment under Section 504 of the IPC.

Public Prosecutor M.N. Ranjana Rao argued on behalf of the Government.

Rider killed as car hits scooter

Darshan

Mysuru, Feb. 20 (MK&BS)- A two-wheeler rider was killed on the spot, while the pillion rider sustained injuries, after their vehicle was allegedly hit by a car on Bogadi-Gaddige Main Road in the city yesterday night.

The deceased has been identified as Darshan (27), a resident of T.K. Layout in city. His friend Manu, who was riding pillion, is admitted at a private hospital here. Both were employed at a private firm, it is said.

The accident occurred at around 8 pm, when the duo was returning home from SBM Layout. As the scooter entered the main road, the car coming from Gaddige side, rear ended the vehicle and dragged it to a distance, before coming to a halt. Both the vehicles were partially mangled in the incident.

Kuvempunagar Traffic Police have registered a case.

Mystery shrouds death of woman

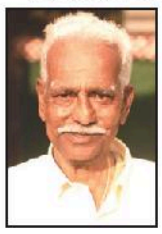
Mysuru, Feb. 20 (PM&KS)- Mystery shrouds death of a woman, whose body was found hanging from the ceiling fan at her house in Saraswathipuram 16th Main on Wednesday night.

The deceased has been identified as Sandhya (45). Her brother, expressing doubts over her death, has lodged a Police complaint.

Post-mortem was conducted yesterday afternoon and the body was handed over to the family members. Based on the complaint, Saraswathipuram Police who have registered a case are investigating.

Obituary

H. Rajappa



Mysuru, Feb. 20 - H. Rajappa (74), retired Head Master and a resident of Yelwal, passed away following age-related illness this morning in city.

He leaves behind his wife, two sons including former journalist H.R. Mallesh, daughters-in-law, grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at his native place Haradur, near Bettadapura in Periyapatna taluk this afternoon.

Siddamma

Siddamma (85), a resident of Tilaknagar, passed away yesterday in city.

She leaves behind three sons including former Corporator Nandakumar and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at Jodi Tengina-mara Burial Grounds at Bannimantap this afternoon, according to family sources.

H.R. Venkatesh

Hunsur: H.R. Venkatesh (87), former Councillor and a resident of Kollapuradamma Street, passed away yesterday in the town.

He leaves behind his wife, two sons, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held at the crematorium, adjacent to the Taluk Office this afternoon.

KSOU financial, administrative lapses

Justice B.A. Patil Panel begins investigation

Mysuru, Feb. 20 (PM&DM)- The One-Man Committee headed by retired High Court Judge Justice B.A. Patil on Wednesday commenced an inquiry into the alleged irregularities at Karnataka State Open University (KSOU) in city.

B.A. Patil

The panel was constituted following a complaint by whistle-blower Dr. H.K. Jagadish Babu, a faculty member in the Department of Public Administration and the Secretary of the KSOU Permanent Teachers Association (KSOUPTA) to Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot, who is also the Open University's Chancellor.

Acting on the complaint highlighting alleged financial and administrative irregularities, the Governor issued a notification on Jan. 30, 2026, appointing Justice B.A. Patil to head a One-Man Fact-Finding Committee.

Dr. Jagadish Babu has alleged fraudulent payment of Rs. 1.71 crore to Virtual Education Trust, New Delhi.

Multiple irregularities alleged

The complaint also points to appointments made in excess of sanctioned temporary teaching and non-teaching posts, a change in the designation of posts, the alleged unnecessary establishment of regional centres, appointment of temporary directors to such centres and creation of posts without approval, among other issues.

Earlier, KSOU staff had staged demonstrations alleging rampant corruption by the former Registrar (Administration). The issue was also raised in the Karnataka Assembly.

Taking note of the allegations, State Government had directed Karnataka State Higher Education Council Vice-Chairperson and former Gulbarga University VC Prof. S.R. Niranjana to conduct a *prima facie* probe by examining relevant records.

Based on his report, the Government requested the Governor to constitute a panel to investigate the charges.

Appearance before Committee

Subsequently, the Governor issued a notification forming the One-Man Committee headed by Justice Patil. The Committee has now issued a notice to Dr. Jagadish Babu, asking him to appear with supporting documents at 11 am on Feb. 25 at the KSOU Guest House in Muktagangothri campus on Hunsur Road, for recording his statement.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Dr. Jagadish Babu said he had filed a separate complaint regarding the alleged fraudulent payment to the New Delhi-based trust.

"I have been asked to appear before Justice B.A. Patil Committee at 11 am on Feb. 25 at the KSOU Guest House in Muktagangothri. The Committee has set up its office at Kumarakrupa Guest House in Bengaluru, which is inconvenient for those who wish to depose before it. We feel the office should function from the KSOU campus," he said.

He added that he had sought a copy of Prof. Niranjana's preliminary probe report under RTI Act but was told that it could not be shared as the matter is under investigation.

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Near Vinoba Road, Devaraja Mohalla, Shivarampete, Mysuru 570001.
Contact 9590018133 | 9035160215 | 9902668690

ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಹೂಟಗಳ್ಳಿ

ಎಸ್.ಆರ್.ಎಸ್. ಸ್ಟೇಷನ್ ಎದುರು, ಪೈಟೆನ್ಷನ್ ಜೋಡಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಹೂಟಗಳ್ಳಿ
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ಸಂ.: ನಸಹೂ/ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ/ಕೆ.ಆರ್.–16/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18.02.2026

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಹೂಟಗಳ್ಳಿ ನಗರಸಭೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ನಗರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆ.ಟಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಕಾಯ್ದೆ 2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ KPP ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಸೇವೆಗಳನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಲು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಹಾಗು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05.03.2026 ಸಂಜೆ 5:30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ,** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07.03.2026, ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.** ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಶಾಖೆಯ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಅಂಗೀಕರಿಸುವ ಅಥವಾ ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ನಗರಸಭೆ ಕಾಯ್ದಿರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ.ಯನ್ನು ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕವಾಗಿ ಪಾವತಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ವಿವರಗಳು	ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
1	DMA/2025-26/SE7336	5.01	12,600/-
2	DMA/2025-26/SE7350	20.00	42,500/-

DIPR/MYS/1694/SA/2025-26

ಸಹಿ/– ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಹೂಟಗಳ್ಳಿ

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Legacy waste NEAR CLEAR

BEFORE — *The pile up of legacy waste dumped at Sewage Farm premises in Vidyaranyapuram, Mysuru.*

AFTER — *The vacant land is seen after the clearance of legacy waste at Sewage Farm premises in Vidyaranyapuram.*

(Continued from page 1)

The work was delayed due to rain and other natural hurdles, but is now expected to be completed by June.

The waste had been divided into six blocks at the start of the project. Clearance began with the block containing the least waste and has now reached the final block, with efforts intensified to meet the revised deadline, which is four months away.

Initial phase challenges

In the early stage, the target was to clear one tonne of waste per day, which was later scaled up significantly. However, monsoon season posed a major setback, worsened by overflowing sewage from adjacent treatment plant that caused water stagnation and hampered excavation work.

Two large machines are currently deployed to segregate plastic, soil, compostable material and other waste during work shifts of up to 10 hours.

Segregated plastic is being sent to cement manufacturing units in Kalaburagi and other locations, compostable material is processed accordingly, and recovered soil is reused for landfilling, demonstrating effective waste reuse.

BPCL CNG plant planned

According to MCC Environment Section Assistant Executive Engineer Mohan Gowda, the sixth and seventh waste blocks have been fully cleared, freeing nearly seven acres of land for a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) unit to be set up by Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited.

MCC has signed a 15-year Memorandum of Understanding with BPCL and will supply 150 tonnes of wet waste daily for CNG production.

Aerial drone view of the Sewage Farm, capturing progress in clearing legacy waste.

Once operational, the CNG will be provided to MCC vehicles at subsidised rates, potentially saving the civic body Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 3 crore that was previously spent each year on disposing of the same quantity of wet waste, Mohan Gowda said.

Set up in 1996

The Excel Treatment Plant was set up under the JnNURM Project in 1996 and solid waste is treated to produce compost. However, tonnes of garbage go untreated. Residents said that the animal carcasses and other waste from slaughter houses were dumped directly into the plant, leading to unbearable stench.

The untreated legacy waste accumulating at the plant had sparked widespread resentment among the residents of J.P. Nagar, Kanakagiri, Gundu Rao Nagar, Vidyaranyapuram and Vishweshwaranagar, who had complained not only of foul smell, but also a threat to their health and well-being.

After a series of protests and public campaigns, the daily waste was shifted to locations like Kesare and Rayanakere for processing. The District Administration decided in January 2020 to go ahead with a Bioremediation (Biomining) project to clear the legacy waste.

RTCs call off strike plans; March 2 new deadline for Govt.

Bengaluru, Feb. 20 (BS)- Following the assurance of the Government to fulfil their demands, the Road Transport Corporations (RTCs), have withdrawn their call for strike from today. The buses belonging to KSRTC, Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), North Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NWKRTC) and Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC) will be running as usual across the State.

This was resolved at a meeting of Joint Committee of Trade Unions, held at Freedom Park in the city yesterday. Prior to the decision to withdraw strike call in the wake of ongoing exams for students, the employees of RTCs had an elaborate discussion about their demands, the assurance of the Government and the future course of protest.

Most importantly, a new deadline of March 2 was announced for the Government to fulfil their demands. If the Government reneges on its promise, the RTCs employees will launch Statewide hunger strike from March 2.

Demands

The demands include; clearance of salary arrears up to 38 months, salary on par with Government employees, prevention of harassment of workers and revised pay effective from Jan. 1, 2024.

Earlier, some of the employees present at the meeting took exception for taking a decision in haste.

3-day Paridrishya International Short Films Festival begins

Kannada actor and MP Jaggesh (centre), who inaugurated Paridrishya 4th International Short Films and Documentaries Festival at Maharaja's College Grounds in city this morning, seen with lyricist and director Dr. V. Nagendra Prasad, director P. Sheshadri, script writer Jogi Girish Rao Hatwar, members of Mysuru Cinema Society and others.

Mysuru, Feb. 20 (MK&VNS)- Paridrishya 4th International Festival of Short Films & Documentaries-2026 hosted by Mysuru Cinema Society was inaugurated by Kannada actor and Rajya Sabha MP Jaggesh at Maharaja's College Grounds, here this morning.

The three-day film festival will witness screening of more than 300 short films and documentaries from more than 104 countries including India, Iran, Spain, France, Brazil, Russia, Poland, Italy, China, Germany among others at the venue till Feb. 22. Among the Indian short films and documentaries includes those in Kannada, Hindi, Assamese, Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu and Odia languages. Apart from screening of short films and documentaries, master classes from industry experts including Jogi Girish Rao Hatwar, Manish Desai, Timmothy Pollock and P. Sheshadri have also been organised.

Panel discussions on 'Story to Screenplay', 'Cinema as a tool for shaping narratives' and 'The Path of Kannada Cinema' will be held during the three-day event.

Cultural programmes like folk art performance, musical nite by Rajesh Krishnan and M.D. Pallavi, Hemanth Kumar and Lahari Mahesh will be held on Feb. 20 and Feb. 21 at main stage.

The award ceremony is on Feb. 22 at 5.30 pm.

Script writer Jogi Girish Rao Hatwar, lyricist Dr. V. Nagendra Prasad, actress Karunya Rao Gowda, Mysuru Cinema Society President M. Chethan, Hon. President Dr. G. R. Chandrashekar, Secretary Padmavathi Bhat and Vice President Prof. Shobith Rangappa were present on the occasion.

ಪರಿದೃಶ್ಯ PARIDRISHYA

Entry is free for all the events

THIS EVENING EVENTS

MAIN STAGE

- **6.30 pm to 7 pm:** Cultural Programme by folk artistes
- **7 pm to 8.30 pm:** Swara Sandhya 2026: Musial Night by Rajesh Krishnan and M.D. Pallavi.

MOVIES: THEATRE 1

- **4 pm to 5 pm:** Following the Past (Gatanugama - Kannada), Director: Poornachandra Hegde; The Artist (Assamese), Director: Samiran Deka
- **5pm to 6.30 pm:** Syncopated Soul of Kolkata (English), Directors: Zoya Hassan and Sharon Tisa Lepcha
  Dharmo Rakshti Rakshtah (Hindi), Director: Raja Ukabhai Parmar
  Varanasi – The City of Nirvana (Hindi), Director: Vikash Thakur
  Web of Life (Malayalam), Director: G.S. Unnikrishnan Nair
  Joggers Park (Marathi), Director: Ajit Bhure and Sagar Devre
  Tick Tock (Kannada): Darshan Shinde

MOVIES: THEATRE 2

- **5 pm to 6.30 pm:** The Tide Turns (Indian Languages), Director: Igor Virabov and Team; Ivan The Terrible (English), Director Adriano Leone

TOMORROW (FEB. 21 TILL 2 PM)

- **9 am to 10 am:** The Olive Tree and Baobab (Italian, English and Swahili), Director: Senera Porta
- **10 am to 11 am:** Maya (Telugu), Director: Shwarna Reka Prabhu
  Titli – Butterflies (English), Director: Akanksha Sood Singh
- **11 am to 12 noon:** The First Film (Hindi), Director: Piyush Thakur
  Prodigal (Kannada), Director: Shawn Divakar
- **12 noon to 1 pm:** Bisibelebaath (Kannada), Director: P.V. Karthikeyan
  Thanikai – The Audition (Tamil), Director: Sujai Raja Bojarajan
- **2 pm to 3.30 pm:** Janda (Telugu), Director: M. Achyuth Kovidh
  Kashi – Aadi, Ant or Moksha (Hindi), Director: Divyanshi Bundela
  Malarin Khoda (Hindi), Director: Ayush Gurung and Priyanshu Kisku
  Bow Barracks: Beyond the Red Bricks (English), Director: Vidyanath Nishant
  Paddyamagche Duniya (Marathi), Directors: Sahil Sandip Sawant and Anik Ranjuk Chau

NOTE: The list of movies after 4 pm will be made available tomorrow

QR code boards installed on Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway

Scan and get instant info on hospitals, Police, toll plazas, fuel stations and food outlets

Mysuru, Feb. 20 (AG&BCT)- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has installed QR code-based information boards along the Mysuru-Bengaluru National Highway-275 to enhance transparency and improve ease of travel for highway users.

By scanning the QR codes, commuters can instantly access key details about the highway stretch, nearby toll plazas and available wayside amenities.

The initiative is part of NHAI's broader effort to modernise highway infrastructure and integrate digital tools that can assist travellers during emergencies, vehicle breakdowns, or medical situations.

The QR codes also provide quick access to important emergency contacts, including highway patrol teams, engineers, Police stations, hospitals and the National Highway helpline. There is also information on the total project cost, stretches, name of the contractor, etc.

Officials said this could significantly reduce response time during accidents or medical emergencies, particularly on high-speed corridors where delays can prove fatal.

In addition, commuters can find information on nearby toll plazas, fuel stations, rest areas, food outlets and other facilities, making long-distance travel more convenient.

QR code locations

Bengaluru to Mysuru

- Near Bidadi Industrial Area, close to Toyota Kirloskar Motor facility.
- On the outskirts of Bidadi, covering a mixed residential-industrial stretch.
- Near Ramanagara (Bengaluru South) bypass, adjoining Ramanagara hills (Sholay Gudda).
- Around Channapatna, popularly known as Karnataka's toy town.
- Near Maddur, close to the Cauvery Basin region and the Maddur Tiffanys Junction area.
- Along Mandya bypass, passing sugar factories and agricultural belts.

Mysuru to Bengaluru

- Hill section stretch between Bidadi and Ramanagara.
- Semi-rural highway segment between Ramanagara and Channapatna.
- Agricultural zone stretch between Channapatna & Maddur.
- Near Maddur, influenced by the Cauvery river basin.
- Close to Mandya town limits and exit point.
- Near Mysuru, Manipal Hospital and ORR junction via Srirangapatna.

Elected Directors

Mysuru, Feb. 20- The following are the new Directors of Ursu Mandali Co-operative Society Ltd., Thyagaraja Road, for 2026-2031: A.R. Mallaraje Urs, Suchitha, A.M. Mallaraje Urs, M.C. Suresh, B. Ravi, A.V. Vidya, A.R. Niranjanraje Urs, K.S. Mallaraje Urs, T.L. Aravindraje Urs, Kiran G.S. Urs, P.K. Chidanandaraje Urs, Indrani, G. Keerthi Prakash, Choodachandraraje Urs, M.K. Phaninanjaraje Urs and N.S.Dasaraje Urs, according to a press release.

Operation Flex!

(Continued from page 1)

Deputy Commissioner G. Lakshmikanth Reddy warned that violators would face action under the Karnataka Open Places (Prevention of Disfigurement) Act, 1981, as amended in 2020, which provides for a fine of up to Rs. 1,000, imprisonment of up to six months, or both.

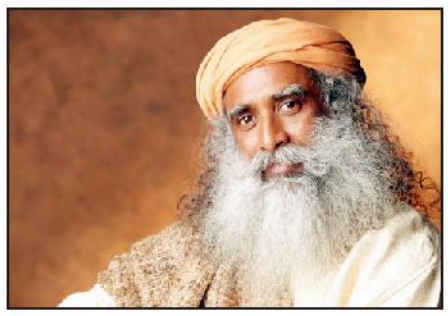
In addition, Sections 133 and 136 of the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964, prohibit the display of unauthorised advertisements and empower local bodies to remove them.

Officials clarified that banners and flexes may be displayed only after securing due permission and strictly for the period specified. They must be removed once the permitted duration expires, failing which legal action will follow.

Mysuru City Corporation Commissioner Shaikh Tanveer Asif told *Star of Mysore* that the removal drive has begun in earnest and expressed confidence that the city would soon be cleared of unauthorised banners and flexes.

MYSTIC'S MUSINGS

By Sadhguru - Founder, Isha Foundation



Withdrawing from Activity

To seek the Divine, should you withdraw from worldly affairs? How can you withdraw from worldly affairs anyway? It all depends on what it is that you call worldly affairs. Is cooking your food a worldly affair? Yes. Is washing your clothes a worldly affair? Yes. You have to do these worldly affairs. Otherwise how will you live here?

What kind of worldly affairs you want to do is your individual choice. Everybody need not join politics. Even in social situations, somebody is in politics, somebody is a clerk in an office, somebody is running a whole industry and somebody is sweeping floors. All of them are doing worldly affairs. So you cannot really withdraw from worldly affairs. Every person has a right to choose what type of worldly affair he does and how much of it. It is only those people who do not know what they are doing with themselves and who are just doing what everybody else is doing, who complain in this manner. They neither have the intelligence nor the awareness to do their own thing.

Such people are always complaining about spiritual people, "These people are not being responsible. They are not doing worldly affairs, they are doing their own affairs." The man who is in his own house or in his office is also there just to do his own affairs. He is not interested in the well-being of the world. He does not know what his real affair is and has gotten himself into such a mess that he does not even know how to get out of it.

If somebody manages their lives the way they want, to the extent they want, these people who have made their lives unmanageable, enslaved and entangled to the situations around them, become very **jealous.** They will always complain.

Right now, the way the world is going, if a lot of people continue doing too many things on this planet, this planet will not even last another ten years. Fortunately, fifty percent of the people are lazy. The other fifty percent, who are too industrious, are busy destroying the world. People who are withdrawing from excessive activity are not causing any damage either to themselves, to society, the environment or the planet. It is only the people doing activity in absolute unawareness, who are truly destroying this world. Not knowing what they are doing, simply imitating somebody, they are doing more activity, more briskly than anybody else. They are the people who are causing tremendous damage to this planet. They are the people who are taking the whole of humanity towards global suicide.

So right now, the most responsible thing you can do in the world is to withdraw from activity. Withdrawing from activity is not so simple. It takes tremendous maturity to simply sit quietly. It does not happen because you are lazy or irresponsible, it happens because you are aware and conscious.

[Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev, a yogi, is a visionary, humanitarian and a prominent spiritual leader. An author, poet and internationally-renowned speaker, Sadhguru's wit and piercing logic provoke and widen our perception of life. www.ishafoundation.org]

80 child marriages in 2024 & 2025 despite preventive efforts, rues Mysuru DC

Mysuru, Feb. 20 (BCT)- "Child marriage is often wrongly viewed as the sole responsibility of the Department of Women and Child Development. In reality, eliminating child marriage requires coordinated action from the Education, Health and other Departments," said Mysuru Deputy Commissioner (DC) G. Lakshmikanth Reddy while addressing a workshop on making Mysuru a child-marriage-free district at Kalamandira in city recently.

Pointing out that Mysuru is considered an educationally advanced district, the DC noted that 224 child marriages were prevented in 2024, yet 56 marriages — mostly involving girls — still took place. In 2025, authorities stopped 268 child marriages, but 24 were reported. "If child marriages continue despite our efforts, it reflects our collective failure," he rued.

He added that Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, PDOs and health staff often receive information about impending child marriages in villages but fail to act decisively. To strengthen prevention, a training programme will be organised to help officials intervene effectively and make Mysuru a child-marriage-free district.

Supreme Court directives

Principal District and Sessions Judge Usharani, who is also Chairperson of the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), said child marriage deprives children of their childhood, education, play, rest and health, thereby destroying their future.

Deputy Commissioner G. Lakshmikanth Reddy, Principal District and Sessions Judge Usharani, Senior Civil Judge K.K. Amarnath, MCC Commissioner Shaikh Tanveer Asif, SP Mallikarjun Baladandi, Additional DC Dr. P. Shivaraju and others releasing posters to make Mysuru a child-marriage-free district.

She reminded participants that the Supreme Court has issued directives to eliminate child marriage, recognising it as a serious violation of children's rights. Under Section 13 of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, authorities are empowered to issue preventive orders and stop suspicious mass marriages.

Senior Civil Judge K.K. Amarnath, Member-Secretary of DLSA, said Police Stations regularly receive complaints of child marriages and sexual assaults involving underage girls, but awareness remains low.

During the workshop, Anganwadi and ASHA workers who had successfully prevented child marriages and filed complaints, were honoured.

▶ Emergency Response Support System: 112
▶ Child Helpline: 1098 ▶ District Helpline: 15100

The event was attended by ZP CEO S. Yukesh Kumar, Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights Member S. Manju, MCC Commissioner Shaikh Tanveer Asif, SP Mallikarjun Baladandi, Child Protection Commission Member Venkatesh, UNICEF Child Protection Project Regional Coordinator K. Raghavendra Bhat, Directorate of Child Protection Director C.V. Sneha, Additional DC Dr. P. Shivaraju, DCP (Crime and Traffic) K.S. Sundar Raj and Deputy Director of Women and Child Development B. Basavaraju among others.

Kerala Assembly elections

Inter-State Police strategise to curb liquor, cash flow

IGP (Southern Range) Dr. M.B. Boralingaiah chairing a meeting of officers at his Office in the city yesterday.

Mysuru, Feb. 20 (MTY&BCT)- An inter-State border coordination meeting ahead of the upcoming Kerala Legislative Assembly elections was held yesterday at the office of the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Southern Range, in the city.

The meeting focused on measures to be implemented in the border districts of Karnataka and Kerala, to ensure the smooth and peaceful conduct of the elections.

Among those present were Southern Range IGP Dr. M.B. Boralingaiah, Mysuru Superintendent of Police (SP) Mallikarjun Baladandi, Kodagu SP R.N. Bindu Mani, Chamarajanagar Additional SP M.N. Shashidhar, and senior Kerala Police officers, including Deputy Inspector General, Kannur Range, Yateesh Chandra, Kannur SP Anuj Pallival and Wayanad SP K. Pavithran.

Discussions centred on strengthening inter-State coordination, monitoring sensitive border points and maintaining law and order during the election period.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* this morning, Mysuru SP Mallikarjun Baladandi said the meeting aimed at reinforcing joint mechanisms to curb border-related offences in the run-up to the polls.

Strategies were chalked out to prevent the movement of money, liquor, gold and household items across the border to curb voter inducement. Officials also discussed monitoring the movement of voters, including cases of alleged migration and fake voters crossing from Karnataka to Kerala to influence poll outcomes.

Special attention will be given to hawala transactions, particularly the movement of large sums of money through human couriers across the border, the SP said.

The Kerala Police requested their Karnataka counterparts to intensify security along border check-posts. Mysuru district shares its border with Kerala at Bavali check-post, Chamarajanagar at Moolehole on National Highway 766 and Kodagu at Kutta via Ponnampet, Makutta via Virajpet, and Karike via Bhagamandala.

The Kerala Police also sought regular boat patrolling along the Kabini river, which is reportedly used for river crossings and for transporting liquor and people between the two States, the SP added.

T20 ICC MEN'S T20 WORLD CUP INDIA & SRI LANKA 2026

TODAY'S MATCH [FEB. 20]

Australia Vs **Oman**
Venue: Pallekele International Cricket Stadium, Kandy
Time: 7 pm

TOMORROW'S MATCH [FEB. 21]

SUPER 8s
New Zealand Vs **Pakistan**
Venue: R. Premadasa Stadium, Colombo
Time: 7 pm

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS [FEB. 19]

Afghanistan 200/4 (20 overs)
BEAT
Canada 118/8 (20 overs)

Sri Lanka 178/7 (20 overs)
LOST TO
Zimbabwe 182/4 (19.3 overs)

West Indies 165/6 (20 overs)
BEAT
Italy 123 all out (18 overs)

Catch the live action on Star Sports Network and JioHotstar

Mysuru Cycle Day on Feb. 22

Mysuru, Feb. 20- Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) in association with GIZ Institute and ESAF Foundation will be organising 'Mysuru Cycle Day' on Feb. 22 on Devaraja Urs Road at 9 am. The event has been organised to create awareness on healthy lifestyle and environment pollution through traffic.

In a press release, MCC Commissioner Shaikh Tanveer Asif has urged sportspersons, athletes and general public to participate in large numbers for success of the event.

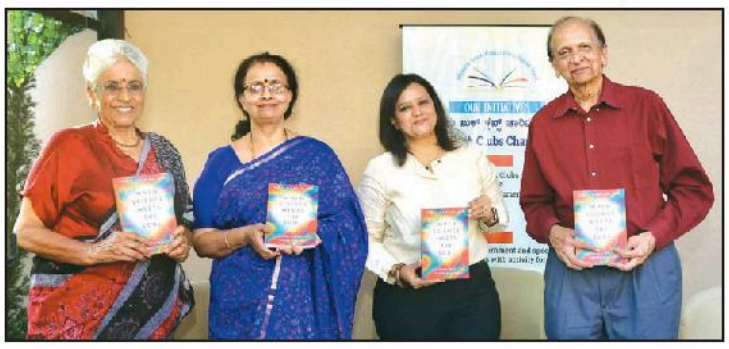
Training on adventure sports

Mysuru, Feb. 20- Indian Mountaineering Foundation and Karnataka Rafting Association have jointly organised water and land adventure sports training for youths between the age group of 18-29 years at Varuna Lake in Mysuru and Kunti Betta in Pandavapura during the last week of February. Last date for registration is Feb. 24.

For more details, contact Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports Assistant Director on Ph: 0821-2564179 or Mob: 94810-75364.

Knowledge knows no caste: Author

Dr. Vipul Mankad's book 'When Science Meets The Soul' released in city



FROM LEFT: ***Dr. Usha Srinath, who received the first copy of the book, Dr. Nalini Chandar, moderator, Shubha Sanjay Urs, Founder-Chairperson of Mysuru Book Clubs Charitable Trust, who released the book and Dr. Vipul Mankad, author of 'When Science Meets The Soul.'***

Mysuru, Feb. 20 (VVH&BCT)- Quoting the Bhagavad Gita, author Dr. Vipul Mankad said that regardless of profession, whether as a doctor or in any other field, work must be performed with knowledge, skill and experience.

Whatever the outcome, he said, it should be accepted with equanimity and one must move forward with clarity and purpose.

Dr. Mankad was speaking at the release of his book 'When Science Meets The Soul', organised by Mysuru Book Clubs Charitable Trust at 'The Sorento' in V.V. Mohalla last evening. Dr. Usha Srinath received the first copy of the book.

Reflecting on identity and heritage, he said being born in India makes one Indian, while ancestry and nature shape one's lineage. He observed that inter-community marriages had historically enriched society, but caste divisions had intensified over the past 1,300 years.

Citing the epics Ramayana and Mahabharata, he said both works underscore the unity of humanity. Vyasa, who hailed from a fishing community, and Valmiki, from a hunter community, authored these classics, demonstrating that knowledge and creativity are not confined to any one caste.

He stressed that scientific thinking must be cultivated in every individual and that humanity should be the foremost identity.

Dr. Mankad also noted that while caste, class and regional divisions persist in India, discrimination in countries such as the United States often manifests through race, nationality and religion. He called upon people guided by human values to rise above such divisions.

The event also featured a dialogue with the author, moderated by writer Dr. Nalini Chandar. Founder-Chairperson of Mysuru Book Clubs Charitable Trust, Shubha Sanjay Urs and President of TiE (The Indus Entrepreneurs), Mysuru, Bhaskar Kalale, were present.

Echo of cylinder blast near Mysore Palace

Blanket ban on helium balloon

Mysuru, Feb. 20 (BCT)- The Mysuru District Administration and the City Police have imposed a blanket ban on the use of helium gas for inflating balloons at public places and events, citing serious threats to public safety.

The order comes in the wake of a recent explosion of helium cylinder near Mysore Palace that claimed three lives.

In separate orders, Deputy Commissioner G. Lakshmikanth Reddy and City Police Commissioner Seema Latkar prohibited the use of helium gas for filling balloons or any other objects within the jurisdiction of Mysuru district and the City Police Commissionerate.

According to press releases, helium gas cylinders contain highly compressed gas and are often stored using unregulated methods, posing risks to life and property. Careless handling may lead to fire hazards, asphyxiation, panic and public disturbance.

Authorities highlighted dangers such as cylinder explosions, suffocation, fire accidents and disorder, noting that festivals, fairs, tourist spots and crowded gatherings are particularly vulnerable. Continued use of helium balloons in such settings could result in severe and unforeseen disasters.

Invoking Section 152 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, balloon sellers, event organisers, traders and the public have been prohibited from storing, transporting, selling or using helium gas in public places without safety standards.

The order warns violators, including balloon sellers, event organisers and traders, will face strict legal action.

Memorial music concerts at Ganabharathi tomorrow

Nithyashree *Ratna Teja* *Shubang* *Chandan* *Sindhu* *Arjun* *Ramanujam*

Mysuru, Feb. 20- Vidu. H.S. Mahalakshmi and Vidu. H.S. Yadugiri Samsmarana Vedike, in association with Ganabharathi, Mysuru, has organised 4th year music concerts on Feb. 21 in memory of Vidu. H.S. Mahalakshmi and Vidu. H.S. Yadugiri at Veene Seshanna Bhavana, Ganabharathi, Adichunchanagiri Road, Kuvempunagar.

Vidu. H.S. Mahalakshmi and Vidu. H.S. Yadugiri

5.15 pm: Karnatak music vocal concert by **Vidu. Nithyashree** accompanied by Vid. Rupanagudi Ratna Teja on violin, Vid. Shubang Samaga on mridanga.

6.30 pm: Flute concert by **Vid. Mysore A. Chandan Kumar** accompanied by Vidu. Sindhu Suchetan on violin, Vid. Arjun Kumar on mridanga and Vid. G.S. Ramanujam on ghata.

'Dasarapadagalu' event at BVB Mysuru

Mysuru, Feb. 20- Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan (BVB), Mysuru Kendra, has organised 'Dasarapadagalu' programme by **Vidu. Sadwini Koppa,** Bengaluru, at its premises in Vijayanagar 1st Stage here at 6 pm on Feb. 21.

She will be accompanied by **Yashaswee** on violin, **M.K. Srinidhi** on keyboard, **Vinay Rangadhol** on rhythm pad and **Aathmaram Nayak** on tabla.

Vidu. Sadwini Koppa

Yashaswee *Srinidhi* *Vinay* *Aathmaram*

Karnatak Mandolin recital at Bhagini Raaga Sourabha

Vid. Rakshith *Vid. Aniruddha* *Vid. Gurudutt* *Vid. Manjunath*

Mysuru, Feb. 20- BSS Vidyodaya and RAAGA Music Academy, Mysuru, in association with Samskara Bharathi, will present 'Bhagini Raaga Sourabha,' an evening of resplendent music, featuring a grand mandolin concert by the young **Vid. Rakshith Prasad** at BSS Vidyodaya in Krishnamurthypuram tomorrow (Feb. 21) at 6 pm. He will be accompanied by **Vid. Aniruddha Bharadwaj** on violin, **Vid. K.R. Gurudutt** on mridanga and **Vid. S. Manjunath** on ghata.

Rakshith began his training under Vid. A.V. Dattatreya in Mysuru, who laid his foundation in classical music. He later received advanced guidance from the legendary late Vid. Mandolin U. Srinivas, whose pioneering work established the electric mandolin as a respected instrument in Karnatak music.

He currently continues his advanced training under Vid. Dr. Mysore M. Manjunath, focusing on manodharma, raga development and concert aesthetics.

He has performed at several noted Sabhas including Bangalore Gayana Samaja, Sree Ramaseva Mandali (Bengaluru and Mysuru), IISc, RK Srikantan Trust, Saamagaana Sangeetha Sabha, JSS Sangeetha Sabha, Ganabharathi, Nadabrahma Sabha, Sri Kartikeya Gana Sabha (Hyderabad), GCMA (Chennai), Sunada Ganasudha (Hubballi), Hamsadhwani Cultural Academy (California) and BITS Pilani, among others.

He is a recipient of the Visesha Prathibha Puraskaram from Sri Kartikeya Gana Sabha, Hyderabad and the Pratibhakankshi Award from Sree Ramaseva Mandali, Bengaluru.

Sharva to sing at Nadabrahma

Vinay Sharva

Mysuru, Feb. 20- Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha has organised a grand vocal concert by **Vid. S.R. Vinay Sharva** from Bengaluru, at its premises on JLB Road in city tomorrow (Feb. 21) at 6 pm.

He will be accompanied by **Vaibhav Ramani** on violin, **Vid. B.S. Prashanth** on mridanga and **Vid. Sharath Kaushik** on ghata.

The programme is an endowment by Bellur Foundation in memory of B.M. Subbanna.

Vinay, an M.Tech graduate, is an A graded All India Radio vocal artiste. His music is traditional and filled with Manodharma coupled with rhythmic perfection.

At the age of 5, he was initiated into music by his mother N. Jayashree. His interest in music began to take form, with guidance under *Sangeetha Vidyanidhi* Vid. Bangalore S. Shankar. To enhance his music knowledge further, he learnt the nuances of vocal from *Sangeetha Kalanidhi* Dr. Nedunuri Krishnamurthy.

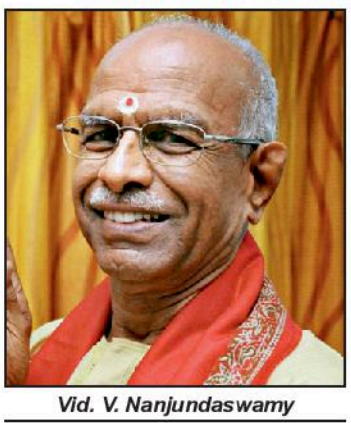
Vinay has performed in various concerts at prestigious music organisations and music festivals.

His knowledge in music has been demonstrated through multiple scholarly lecture-demonstrations that he has rendered. His control on the rhythm was aptly demonstrated through Salankrita Simhanandana, a concert in the rhythmic cycle of 108 letters.

While he has cultivated his talent in music, he has also excelled in academics by completing Master's degree in Electronics. Currently he is an entrepreneur in electronic field.

Sri Purandara & Thyagaraja Aradhane at Surabhi Ganakala Mandira

'Nadasurabhi' title to Sr. Musicologist Vid. Nanjundaswamy



Vid. V. Nanjundaswamy

Vishnudev *Bhaskar* *Jayachandra* *Ramanujam*

Mysuru, Feb. 20- City's Surabhi Ganakala Mandira will be celebrating Sri Purandara and Sri Thyagaraja Aradhane on **Feb. 21 and 22,** commencing at 10 am with the following programmes at Sri Prasanna Parvathi Kalyana Mantapa in V.V. Mohalla:

Feb. 21 - 10.30 am: 'Thyagaraja-Guruguha Sammilana' — Rendering of compositions of Thyagaraja and Muthuswami Dikshitar set in the identical ragas by the students of Surabhi Ganakala Mandira, to celebrate the 250th birth anniversary of Dikshitar; **6 pm:** 'Sri Purandara Navarathna' — Goshti Gayana of Purandara Dasa's compositions.

Feb. 22 - 8.30 am: Goshti Gayana of Thyagaraja Pancharatna Kritis by all musicians from the city, including the students of Surabhi Ganakala Mandira; **10.15 am:** Felicitation to Senior Musicologist, *Karnataka Kalashree* Vid. V. Nanjundaswamy, with the title 'Nadasurabhi' by senior surgeon and art patron, Dr. C.G. Narasimhan and violin maestro and guru *Karnataka Kalashree* Vid. H.K. Narasimhamurthy; **10.30 am:** Classical vocal concert by eminent vocalist **Vid. K.S. Vishnudev Namboodiri**, accompanied by **Vid. H.N. Bhaskar** on violin, **Vid. K.U. Jayachandra Rao** on mridanga and **Vid. G.S. Ramanujam** on ghata, followed by aarti and prasada.

Geeth Sangam on Saturday

Nithyananda *Sadashiv* *Dr. Somanath* *Narayan* *Dr. Seethalakshmi* *Dr. Ravindra*

Annu *Dr. Bharath* *Dr. Bharathi* *Kumaraswamy* *Geetha* *Vinayak*

Kavitha Kamath

Mysuru, Feb. 20- As part of its 15th year celebrations, G. Kavitha Kamath's 'Geeth Sangam' will present a Musical Nite at Jaganmohan Palace auditorium in city tomorrow (Feb. 21) at 5.30 pm.

The event will feature selected romantic songs from Kannada and Hindi movies by the following singers: G. Kavitha Kamath, G. Nithyananda Kamath, Sadashiv Shenoy, Dr. Somanath Vasudev, Hedatale Narayan, Dr. Seethalakshmi Somanath, Annu Murnad, Dr. Ravindra Kumar, B.S. Kumaraswamy, Dr. Bharathi, Geetha Rao, Dr. Bharath Raj and Vinayak Bhat. Anchors for this programme are Dr. R.L. Jagadeesh and M.R. Anitha.

There will be felicitation to senior singers and other professionals on the occasion. Entry to the event is free.

For details, contact Mob: 80500-15626 or 98862-30609, according to a press release.

SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Sangam Theatre** — **Ph: 2520494**
  Second Case of Seetharam (K) - 2; *Alpha: Men Love Vengeance (K)* - 2
- **Padma Theatre** — **Ph: 2521923**
  Bharathi Teacher (K) - 1 Show; *Ghilli (Ta)* - 3 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — **Ph: 2422871**
  Sarala Subbarao (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — **Mob: 99008-20093**
  45 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** — **Ph: 2443568**
  Sarala Subbarao (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — **Mob: 98454-14691**
  Dharmista (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — **Ph: 2420885**
  Landlord (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — **Ph: 2423554**
  Bagavathi (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — **Mob: 98863-25207**
  O' Romeo 3 (H) - 3 Shows

MOVIES AT DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422 4241800

Goat (E-3D)	(S-1)	12.20 pm, 2.35 pm, 4.50 pm
Shatak: Sangh Ke 100 Varsh (H)	(S-1)	7.15 pm
Do Deewane Seher Mein (H)	(S-1)	9.45 pm; (S-2) 10.05 am
O Romeo (H)	(S-2)	12.55 pm
February 30 (K)	(S-2)	4.40 pm
Assi (H)	(S-2)	7.15 pm, 10.05 pm
Second Case of Seetharam (K)	(S-3)	10.35 am, 7.15 pm
Alpha: Men Love Vengeance (K)	(S-3)	1.10 pm
Maarnami (K)	(S-3)	4.05 pm
Hey Balwanth (Te)	(S-3)	9.55 pm
Sarala Subbarao (K)	(S-4)	10.15 am, 4.10 pm
Suri Anna (K)	(S-4)	1.15 pm
Rakkasapuradol (K)	(S-4)	7.05 pm, 9.45 pm

MOVIES AT MYC MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 2973519

Maarnami (K)	:	1.25 pm
Rakkasapuradol (K)	:	1.30 pm
		7.45 pm
Sarala Subbarao (K)	:	1.45 pm, 4.30 pm
		7.30 pm
Alpha Men Love Vengeance (K)	:	4.30 pm
		7.30 pm
February 30 (K)	:	4.45 pm

MOVIES AT NEXUS MALL

Assi (H)	:	10.25 am, 4.30 pm, 10.20 pm
O' Romeo (H)	:	10.55 am, 2.30 pm, 6.05 pm, 9.40 pm
Alpha: Men Love Vengeance (K)	:	11 am, 7.20 pm
Sarala Subbarao (K)	:	11.25 am, 7.25 pm
Goat (E-3D)	:	11.50 am, 7.15 pm
Shatak: Sangh Ke 100 Varsh (H)	:	11.50 am, 2.20 pm, 4.50 pm, 7.20 pm
Maarnami (K)	:	1.15 pm
Suri Anna (K)	:	2 pm
Zootopia 2 (E-3D)	:	2.05 pm
Rakkasapuradol (K)	:	2.10 pm, 9.50 pm
Weapons (E-2D)	:	4.30 pm
February 30 (K)	:	4.50 pm
Second Case of Seetharam (K)	:	4.50 pm, 10.05 pm
Tu Yaa Main (H)	:	7.05 pm
Wuthering Heights (E)	:	9.30 pm
JC: The University (K)	:	10.10 pm

MOVIES AT GARUDA MALL

Shatak: Sangh Ke 100 Varsh (H)	:	11.25 am, 4.30 pm, 6.10 pm
Sarala Subbarao (K)	:	12.05 pm, 4.05 pm, 9.30 pm
Alpha: Men Love Vengeance (K)	:	1 pm, 4.15 pm, 9.50 pm
Rakkasapuradol (K)	:	1.25 pm, 6.50 pm
Second Case of Seetharam (K)	:	1.55 pm, 7.15 pm
Maarnami (K)	:	2.55 pm, 9 pm
Amruthaanjan (K)	:	7 pm
O' Romeo (H)	:	10.10 pm

EVENTS TODAY (FEB. 20)

- **Mysuru Cinema Society:** Paridrishya 2026, a celebration of cinema, cultural and conversation, Day-1 - The Craft (Inauguration and Screenplays), Maharaja's College Grounds, **up to 6.30 pm.**
- **Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya:** 90th anniversary & Mahashivarathri celebrations, Divya Darshana of replica of Gujarat's Sri Somnath Temple, **up to 9 pm;** Discourse by BK Mohan, Channarayapatna, on 'Nanna Kushi Nanna Kaiyalli,' **6.15 pm;** Lecture by Dr. K. Javeed Nayeem, Senior Consultant Physician, Apollo Hospital and Columnist, Mysuru, on 'Ageing Gracefully,' **7 pm;** Chende Vadya by Mookambika Mela, Kalpetta, Kerala, ground opp. BVB Mysuru Kendra, Vijayanagar, **8 pm to 9 pm.**
- **Indian Dastkaar Handloom & Handicraft Haat:** Exclusive exhibition on Handlooms, Handicrafts & Lifestyle products, Scouts & Guides Ground, behind Old DC's Office, **up to 9.30 pm.**
- **Gandhadagudi Foundation, Mysuru:** Street play to create awareness about drugs, DCP K.S. Sundar Raj and others will be present, Dufferin Clock Tower, **5 pm.**
- **Sri Annapoorneshwari Seva Trust:** Sri Annapoorneshwari Ammanavara 4th Vardhanti Mahotsava, Bhajans by Sri Annapoorneshwari Troupe, **5 pm;** Folk Devotional Songs Programme by Mysore Manju - Janapada Siri troupe, **6 pm;** Special Puja and Prasada Distribution, Sri Annapoorneshwari Sannidhi, Vijayanagar 4th Stage, **8.30 pm.**
- **Ganabharathi:** Late D.V. Narasimha Rao and Tripura Sundaramma Memorial Music Programme, vocal concert by Vidu. Kamala Deepthi, accompanied by Vidu. C.V. Shruthi on violin, Vid. Nandan Kashyap on mridanga and Vid. Harish Chandra on kanjira, Ganabharathi, Kuvempunagar, **6 pm.**
- **Suthra Foundation, Mysuru:** Staging of play 'Panjara Shaale' by weekend theatre school children, valedictory ceremony, Kannada & Culture Joint Director V.N. Mallikarjunaswamy, Department of School Education & Literacy Dy. Director (Development) C.R. Nagarajaiah, M.S. Lakshmi Karanth of Doordarshan, Theatre Director Dinesh Chammalige and Suthra Foundation Founder-Secretary G. Jagadish Kumar chief guests, Mini Theatre, Kalamandira premises, **6.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (FEB. 21)

- **Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya:** 90th anniversary & Mahashivarathri celebrations, Divya Darshana of replica of Gujarat's Sri Somnath Temple, **8 am to 9 pm;** Discourse by BK Dhanalakshmi, Madikeri, on 'Mounada Mahatva,' **6.15 pm;** Lecture by Prabhuswamy Malimath, Theatre Person and retd. Senior Announcer of Akashvani, Mysuru, on 'Maatu Vyaktitvada Kannadi,' **7 pm;** Flute recital by Ankush Kadaba troupe, Mysuru, ground opp. BVB Mysuru Kendra, Vijayanagar, **8 pm to 9 pm.**
- **CSIR-CFTRI:** Workshop on 'Sensory Strategies for Sodium Reduction in Indian Traditional Foods,' CSIR-CFTRI Director Dr. Giridhar Parvatam presides, CSIR-CFTRI former Director Dr. Sridevi Annapurna Singh chief guest, AFST(I) President Dr. Paramjit S. Panesar, Forum for Sensory Excellence in Food Convenor Dr. Pawan Agarwal, former Chairperson of CODEX & former Advisor of FSSAI Sanjay Dave guests of honour, Ajinomoto Co. Inc. Executive Officer Dr. Miro Smriga guests of eminence, CSIR-CFTRI, **9 am to 3.15 pm.**
- **Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering & Technology (CIPET), Mysuru:** 'Open House' programme, students and public can visit the institute and experience live demo on plastic product manufacturing, interact with experts for career guidance and internship facility for college students, **9 am to 6 pm.** [Mob: 94802-53024 or 97914-31827]
- **Indian Dastkaar Handloom & Handicraft Haat:** Exclusive exhibition on Handlooms, Handicrafts & Lifestyle products, Scouts & Guides Ground, behind Old DC's Office, **10.30 am to 9.30 pm.**
- **Dalita Sahitya Parishat, District and State Unit, Karnataka Dalit Sangharsha Samiti (Ambedkar Faction), Dalit Vidyarthi Parishat, University of Mysore (UoM), Mysuru:** Janakavi Dr. Siddalingaiah's birthday celebrations, *Holemadigara Haadu* 50th year celebrations and Dalit Sahitya Parishat's calendar release, Dr. Jnana Swaroopanananda Swamiji graces the occasion, MLA Darshan Dhruvanarayan offers floral tributes, Dalita Sahitya Parishat Mysuru Division Co-ordinator Dr. Chandragupta presides, Rani Bahadur auditorium, Manasagangothri, **10.30 am to 12 noon.**
- **Mysuru Cinema Society:** Paridrishya 2026, a celebration of cinema, cultural and conversation, Day-2 - The Future (Documentaries and Shorts), Maharaja's College Grounds, **1 pm to 6.30 pm.**
- **Kalasuruchi:** Kathe Kelona Banni- 920, story-telling by K. Ganesha-prasad, Procurement Manager, L&T Technology Services, Mysuru, Suruchi Rangamane, #476, Chitrabhanu Road, Kuvempunagar, **4.30 pm to 5.30 pm.**
- **Bangalore Players - Theatre Association:** Staging of play 'Gampara Gumpu' by Bangalore Players - Theatre Association, written by Dasharathi Deekshit, directed by Sreepad S. Srivatsa, Mini Theatre, Kalamandira premises, **5 pm to 7 pm.**
- **Avadhoota Datta Peetham:** Mahashivarathri 2026, Sri Venkatamakhin Memorial & Sri Tyagaraja Aradhana - Mass singing of Thyagaraja Pancharatna compositions, **6 pm;** 4k Projection Mapping on 45-ft tall Karya Siddhi Hanuman statue, Sri Ganapathy Sachchidananda Ashram, **(3 Shows) 7.10 pm, 7.40 pm & 8.10 pm.**

MOVIES AT MALL OF MYSORE

O' Romeo (H)	:	11.55 am, 6.15 pm
Shatak: Sangh Ke 100 Varsh (H)	:	1 pm
Alpha: Men Love Vengeance (K)	:	1.30 pm, 7.10 pm
Second Case of Seetharam (K)	:	2 pm, 7.25 pm
Sarala Subbarao (K)	:	3.30 pm, 9.50 pm
Maarnami (K)	:	4 pm, 10 pm
Rakkasapuradol (K)	:	4.30 pm, 10.10 pm
Assi (H)	:	4.35 pm, 10 pm
Hey Balwanth (Te)	:	7.10 pm

MOVIES AT CENTRO MALL

Second Case of Seetharam (K)	:	11.15 am, 4.45 pm, 10 pm
Sarala Subbarao (K)	:	11.25 am, 2 pm, 7.35 pm
O' Romeo (H)	:	11.40 am, 5.55 pm
		9:30 pm
Rakkasapuradol (K)	:	11.45 am, 3.10 pm
		7.20 pm, 10 pm
Doddanna Puttanna (K)	:	2.25 pm
February 30 (K)	:	4.25 pm
Suri Anna (K)	:	4.45 pm
Maggi Pusthaka (K)	:	6.40 pm
Hey Balwanth (Te)	:	10.20 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

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Contact: 9480733066

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Mob: 9845972834

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